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Dear Jerry,

When I get up these days I have to sit and do nothing for about a half-hour until my heart starts to pump enough blood for me not to become exhausted. From the time I got the enclosed letter from Roger Feinman yesterday until I went to sleep and the time I've been awake this morning he has been on my mind because I fear he has crossed the thin line, as Greg Stone did but I hope without the awfulness of anything like Greg did.

Roger's letter was out of the blue, although he did seem to have some obsession with Sylvia's records that began with he strong feeling that she had betrayed their freidnship and his trust in her. He also wanted her records at NYU. I tried to tell him that if she had had any such firm desire she would have done as I have, made the arrangements when she could. I made my first arrangements with the chancellor of Wrone's university, after a request not from Wrone but from the State historical society. When I learned that after that chancellor left that universoty had no real interest I changed the arrangements to the local college, where they do care and where my records have been in use for years by students. So you can understand what kind of place it is and the kind of library it has, Hood is where Sam Adams did his work on Westmoreland and where he did his writing. In any event, it made and makes not a damn bit of difference to me where Sylvia's records are, I have no personal interest of any kind. As should be obvious. after the wretchedly dishonest thing Larry Schiller did she wanted less to do with me and if that is what she wanted, there was nothing I could do about it.So we had very little to do with each other for years. Even when she was at Fensterwald's gathering of the nuts at Georgetown and she saw me there she did not even suggest that we sit and talk or suggest that we lunch or dine together. I was sorry and I retained the great respect I had for her work and for her mind. I was sorry she did not accept the explanation I offered as soon as I saw what that pig had done and as I told her, it was impossible for me to have said what he attributed to me, if you recall, because her book was not out and she had not shown me the ms. If you do remember, what I said that was similar to what Schiller said I said was about Popkin. I did feel, and Wrone, who has no possible selfish interest agreed, that he recofds have a better chance of being used by scholars of the future if they are with mine. By now mine are about a third of a million pages in about 60 file cabinets plus innumerable boxes. Mine do include the really basic work and on the basis of scholarship, can be expected to be the most used. But as I think you'll be able to reason for yourself, I have no personal reason to want her records with mine. Roger's denunciation of McKnight is not only baseless, it is indecent. as I'll explain.

But first I want to make it clear that the reason I am writing and taking this time when I have so little time left and so much I want to do and when for the first time since my many illnesses and surgeries I have help and have returned to writing a book I want very much to complete is condern over Roger. I've known him only as a very decent, a very good and caring person. I'd never heard him express and even dubious opinion about anybody until he was, as perhaps you perceived, desolated by Sylvia's changing her arrangements and that without even telling him.He was and I think he should have been shocked. Of the people I know, you are the only one who can make an effort to be of help to him. I have little experience with such states of mind and as you can see, were I to make any effort it would be futile.

First let me tell you how her records got to be at Hood and the arrangements of which I know, not of first-person knowledge. Greg was in great distress. He had to get them out of her apartment and in a hurry when he spoke to me and he had no idea what he was going to do. I have no space here or I'd have offered him temporary storage here. I did think that the Hood library would give him temporary storage. I could have phoned the librarian or the president myself but I thought it would be better, if they are cramped for space and more effective, if a member of the history faculty did that. So I asked McKnight and all

he had or has had to do with it was to make the arrangements for six months of temporary storage. The six months has by now been much longer and I am not aware of any complaint or pressure from the college and I am also sure that it would welcome her records as a permanent deposit. But to the best of my recollection I've not heard even a suggestion of any provision of Greg's will other than that he made the terribble mistake of making Melandon the heir of his personal papers. And as Roger himself explained to me, absent some written expression by Greg about Sylvia's records, their disposition may be up to Greg's sister. In any event, if there is any permanent deposit anywhere I am not aware of it and if Roger knows he did not tell me. I want also to make clear that while it makes no difference to me where they are, in terms of their being used and becoming a fitting memorial to Sylvia and her work I think Hood is best. If you want to see an illustration of what the big universities do with such things, read my file on my effort to get any access at all to Epstein's deposit at Boston. His stuff is still gathering dust in the boxes in which they were deposited.

As to give you an indication of Roger's state of mind, he virtually denounced and he was severely critical of Al Lowenstein for taking advantage of the students like Greg who were so devoted to him and failed to see that they could make living and go on with their lives. All Al cared about, according to Roger, was getting from them what he could.

Rather than being the boon to Greg that Roger represents in his letter, Sylvia imposed still another and a very unwanted burden on him. Not only did Greg make this clear to me and I suspect to others, it is obvious from the fact that for so long he has entirely ignored them. In our last conversation Greg could not have been clearer about this. Maybe it was in several. If anything having to do with Sylvia's records and the great burden they represented to Greg helped pushed him over the line, it was the responsibility for them she imposed on him. Irrationally, I believe, and wrongly because Roger was the best choice she could have made and initially did make. So, Roger has one standard for Lowenstein and another for Sylvia. This is not the Roger I've known and it is not reasonable in any way.

As you know, anyone has access to my records, unsupervised, so you are if you are here welcome to see what I have filed under Roger and Greg and Sylvia and anything else. In recent years where matters were not essential to my work I've made no memos at all about phone conversations. I also rarely make toll calls because of our ages, the limit to our income, and the fact that we do not have the reserves, as we near 80 with many infirmities for any catastrophic illnesses. If I respond later or later get additional thoughts I write. Because of the difficulty I have in using my files unless it appears to be important I make no copies. I look up and I see a stack of unfiled papers about a foot and a half high that the part-time student help I now have collected from the top of the file cabinet in my office. Until recently, when returning to writing became possible for me, when my physcial activity is severely proscribed for reasons not limited to the large hernie below the incision made for the open-heart surgery (and it gradually gets larger), I'd been reminiscing with old friends and I wasn't even keeping copies. Then I got pressure from one of them and began to keep copies because they do include some otherwise unrecorded history. So, there will not be memos on my phone conversations with Greg unless he made them. Obviously, I never expected anything that happened. I did not perceive that he was depressed but it was obvious he was anxious, as he himself said, burned out by the remarkably effective RFK work he did, dismayed at the burden Sylvia imposed on him. And as Roger knows very well, the first thing I urged upon Greg was that he ask Roger to take over the burden Sylvia imposed on him. I told him what I genuinely believe and think is obvious, that he had accomplished all that is possible now and more than he'd had any right to expect to be able to do. I urged one other thing on him, that he complete his doctorate. If there was only one thing that made him sound a bit brighter it was that Roger could take over whatever has to be done to Sylvia's records.

Roger knowingly misrepresents my knowledge of this. All Greg mentioned to me was accessioning and it is that and that alone that I said is the responsibility of the institution. I assumed that there might have been some things that Sylvia wanted to be

confidential and I assumed and believe that unless she designated something as confidential nobody has ant right to censor the history of which we have been part by restricting anything she did not restrict. I used myself as an illustration and I'm sure this is in some letter or letters I wrote about Sylvia's. I am certain that she has some nasty stuff about me at least relating to the Schiller lies and that they should not be censored or restricted in any way. I know she expressed other prejudices and they also ought not be withheld. For example, in the introduction or preface to her great book, she knowingly lied about the sequence in which the books appeared. She read the limited edition of my first in 1965 and she had the general distribution edition quite some time before Epstein's was out. She showed me the page proofs once when I was lunching wither her at the UN; I called this to her attention, and she did not make any correction. This has to represent some kind of prejudice but nobody has any right to alter it now.

Later when we discussed this Roger told me what I did not know, knowing nothing at all about what she left, that she had the unpublished manuscripts of others. I suppose that there may be some legal decisions on such matters that control but I know nothing about them, if any, and I presume that the author retains the right to his own work. But unless there is an enormous amount of this these kinds of things present no great amount of work. Frankly, I can't see that, on the basis of what I've been told, there should be any great amount of work to be done on her records. Maybe there is what I know nothing about. But I believe Roger has inflated this. Whether or not so, his knowledge that I urged and believed I'd convinced Greg to ask him to do it is without question.

Roger expressed his own desire that the records be in New York so he could have access to them. From what he said Sylvia had some kind of association, perhaps copies of, some of Roger's work.

In retrospect I can see now that maybe he was building up to this irrationality. He was giving me all kinds of chickenshit reasons for no records being here in a small town, and that scholars, for example, would not be able to afford to live here to use her records. If they are a permanent deposit here the exact opposite will be the case for all except those who live in New York had then been deposited at NYU. Hood has arrangements for out-of-towners who come here and if you want to see how remarkably inexpensive they are if you are here check my McKinney file. He was an instructor at Penn State, wanted to use my records on his doctroal theses, and Hood got him a fine room with older people in town who take out-of-town students in for so little he could not believe it. Something like $20-$25 for an entire week. I should perhaps have wondered how the Roger I thought I knew would say and believe such things. I knew he was upset and troubled by what he several times including in his first phone call after Sylvia died referred to as her "betrayal" of him and his trust in her. From what he said I agreed with him and frankly, was surprised that she would have done such a thing.

Instead of such a rotten thing as he says about McKnight the Roger I thought I knew would have been grateful that McKnight arranged a no quid-pro-quo safe storage for her records, at no cost to anyone, until a permanent arrangement was made. He would have asked himself, if he really loved Sylvia and caned about her records, what in the hell would have happened to them without McKnight's and Hood's unselfishness. And he would have been grateful to me for saving them from becoming a cost to Greg for their commercial storage. What else could he have done and absent a provision for such costs by Sylvia, how would he have paid such costs? So, there is nothing but the precise opposite of the Roger I've known, liked and respected in his letter. I'd like to have reason to think he'll come to his senses but I fear his emotionally involvements, whatever they may be, and his frustrations at not being able to get a new start in law, have been too much for him. A rational Roger could not have thought, leave alone uttered, the many foul and false things in his letter. So, I am worried about and for him. I do not know whether anyone can help him absent a willingness on his part or if you want to, but I know of hobody else he knows who might make any effort to be of help to him. I hope you will at least try. How I cannot suggest because I do not know and I suppose that under such emotional stresses fact and truth may not be a means of getting through.

If you decide to try and if that means havigg copies of anything I have you know you can. But because he knows there is no truth in what he says I wonder if truth can be a means of reaching him.

You probably know more about Greg's situation that I do before he killed himself. I suppose those you spoke to on the west coast told you what one or more told me, that they also had been encouraging him to complete his doctorate. He did brighten up, at least his voice did, when he was complaining to me that he was overwhelmed by the obligation Sylvia had imposed on him, and I urged him to ask Roger to take that over and return to his studies. He said he'd think it over and would be in touch with me in a couple of weeks.

There never was a time Greg did not reflect to me his unhappiness over having to take any time for Sylvia's records. He also had and exprrssed no interest in political assassinations as such or in JFK's and he never even asked for a copy of any of my books or looked into a single file cabinet that I can recall. I think his interest in RFK's assassination was not in it but from his love for Lowenstein.

There is another aspect of this that troubles me about Roger and his state of mind. He knows I've been enfeebled, as has Lil. (She fell down a couple of weeks ago, without injury, but was unable to get up herself and it took the two of us about a quarter of an hour to get her up. She could not push herself up when I placed a chair infront of her and the way we finally got her up was when I put a chair behind her and pushed it under her each fraction of an inch she rose when pushing on the chair in front of her.) He knows we are both nearing 80. I'll be 78 next month, with many illnesses about which in my case at least nothing can now be done. Except in some extremity they will not consider attempting to correct the hernia in my chest, for example, and with my blood problems, as they've said, I am a poor candidate for any surgery. The local cardiologist did not expect me to survive the open-heart surgery and recently the family doctor said he'd exoected me to lose my legs 10 years ago, Knowing these things, as Roger did, can you imagine the Roger we used to know being capable of the kind of infamous letter he sent me? Frankly, I can't. Can you imagine the Roger we knew converting the curse Sylvia put on Greg by imposing this obligation on him, referring to it as the greats of blessings?

I have no idea what you can do. Or whether Schoener can be of any help. But I hope you will want to and can find a way and can accomplish something. Roger was one of the best human beings I've known. He was always kind and considerate with me. Coming atop what Greg did I'm very worried.

This is off th4 top of the head and I've forgotten something I should has suggested earlier. Aside from the actuality about McKnight I give you above, can you conceive of any selfish motive Wrone could have in telling Roger that he thinks the best arrangements that can be made for <u>use</u> of Sylvia's records is at Hood? Maybe Roger imagined a selfish interest I could have, but ask yourself if you can think of any.

Although it may have no significance, I wonder why Roger, for the first time in years, again used MCI mail when he'd stopped addressing me via it because it only made extra costs he cannot not afford and always delayed what he sent. This diatribe took four days when it could have reached me overnight at less cost. As I noted to Wrone, it was mailed from Naperville, Ill., of all places, and by coincidence I'd just mailed him what had been overlooked in the clutter on my desk. I am trying to write, which means lots of papers on it, I do still respond to all letters and inquries regardless of the time it takes of the time I have left and from the writing I want to do, and I can't sit with my legs under the desk and must sit with my legs up and sideways to it, so some clutter is inevitable. If as he says he'll return it, I'll file it unopened and if you are here and want to see what is in it, you are welcome to open it and see. I don't recall but I am confident I was never anything but honest with him. And if I saw a chance to be of help in his thinking, tried to be. I'll read and correct this later. If you want to call me, I try to be asleep by nine because whether I want to be or not I am up by four every morning, sometimes earlier. I still start start each day with walking therapy at the nearby mall and absent errands or medical appointments am home by 9:30... I hope all is goinf well with you and that you are happy in your new work and home. Sincerely,

Harold